

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 SAM-01

ACDA-05 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 /094 W

----- 018749

O 261425Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3934

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY MADRID

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

DOD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0497

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, AG, MO, US, SS

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA; BOUMEDIENE'S REACTION TO ARMS DEAL

1. AM INFORMED INDIRECTLY BY PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDANT THAT BOUMEDIENE GREATLY ANGERED BY REPORTS OF F-5 DEAL AND ACCOMPANYING COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND CONGRESSIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

2. ALGERIA'S SUSPICIONS REGARDING OUR INTENTIONS ARE ALWAYS ACUTE. AS RESULT CURRENT NEWS STORIES, BOUMEDIENE'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS US NOW APPARENTLY PARTICULARLY PARANOID, ESPECIALLY GIVEN HIS PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO GOA SAHARA VENTURE (WHICH REAFFIRMED PUBLICLY 24 FEB AT LABOR CONVENTION - ALGIERS 490).

3. IN THIS CLIMATE WE CANNOT OVER-EMPHASIZE LIKELY DISASTROUS EFFECT OF FURTHER COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO WASHINGTON OR OFFICIAL

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USG SOURCES ANYWHERE ON US POLICY TOWARD MOROCCO AND ALGERIA.

OUR BEST BET IS TO LET QUIET DIPLOMACY, SUCH AS UPCOMING
ATHERTON VISIT, TRY TO GET US OVER WHAT IS EXTREMELY ROCKY
PERIOD IN OUR RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA. IF WE EVER NEEDED
TO BUTTON OUR LIPS, THIS IS ONE OF THE TIMES.PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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